Emerging Leaders 2019 Team Report

Project Team G
International Peer-Mentoring: A Pilot Project

Project Host Unit: ALA International Relations Round Table
Emerging Leaders Team Members: Kelly Grogg, Adrienne Keane, Georgina Rivas-Martinez, Trina Rivera, Stacey Shapiro
Member Guide: Dr. Muzhgan Nazarova
Staff Liaison: Delin Guerra

Project Description

Building on the success of the International Librarians Network (ILN), which was discontinued in March, 2017 this project is an attempt to start an international peer-mentoring program within the IRRT. IRRT was one of the original partners of ILN. One of the major goals of this project is to facilitate the international exchange and partnership between library professionals in different countries, building global networks and supporting knowledge and information exchange among colleagues around the world. One of the initial stages of the project, in addition to proper advertising and marketing among the national and international members of ALA including the IRRT members, will be to create a special space on the IRRT website as a part of one of the IRRT committees where interested individuals can apply and the information will be entered in the database. The role of the IRRT team working directly with this project will be finding the right match and coordinating this partnership. As it is clearly indicated in the title this project is a pilot and depending on the results on how successful this project will be it will continue or discontinue in the future. The model of the IRRT Sister Libraries Committee coordinating the partnership between the libraries will also be used.
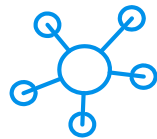
Acknowledgments

1.
Introduction

Team G was tasked with implementing a pilot program for an international peer-mentorship within the International Relations Round Table (IRRT). This program was modeled on the International Librarians Network (ILN) peer mentor program, which ended in 2017.

The expected goals of this project were to:

Goal 1

Facilitate the international exchange and partnerships between library professionals in different countries

Goal 2

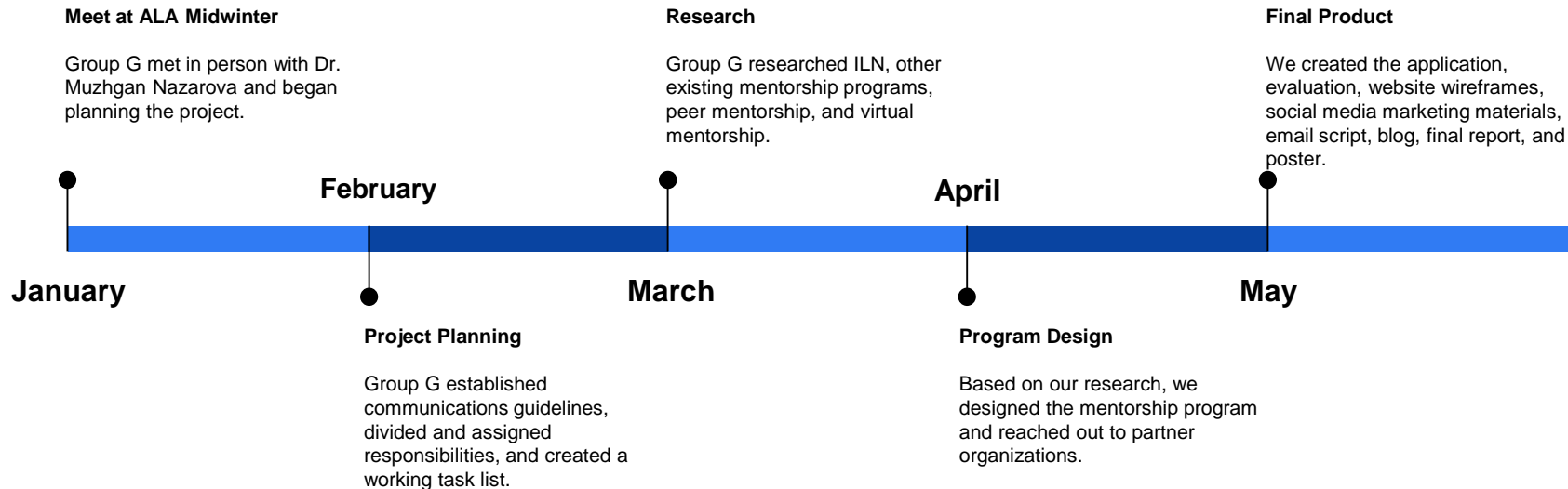Establish and build global networks among information professionals

Goal 3

Support knowledge and information exchange among colleagues around the world

Timeline

Spring 2019

Meet at ALA Midwinter

Group G met in person with Dr. Muzhgan Nazarova and began planning the project.

Research

Group G researched ILN, other existing mentorship programs, peer mentorship, and virtual mentorship.

Final Product

We created the application, evaluation, website wireframes, social media marketing materials, email script, blog, final report, and poster.

February

January

March

April

May

Project Planning

Group G established communications guidelines, divided and assigned responsibilities, and created a working task list.

Program Design

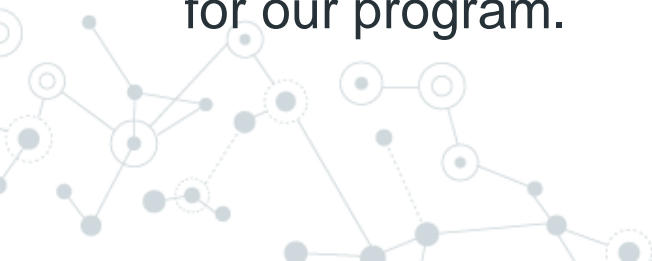Based on our research, we designed the mentorship program and reached out to partner organizations.

Research

International Librarians Network (ILN) Resources

The ILN published several reports and papers detailing the running of their successful online peer mentoring program that became the basis for our program.

Research on Virtual and Peer Mentorship

We reviewed the scholarly literature on virtual/online mentorship programs, as well as peer vs. traditional mentorship to help us structure our mentorship program.

Existing Mentorship Programs

We examined existing successful mentorship programs within ALA (ALSC, REFORMA, LLAMA), as well as the New Jersey-based MentorNJ.

2.

Program Design

International Librarians
Mentorship Program (ILMP)

Pilot Program

- ◎ First 50 eligible applicants accepted
- ◎ Eligibility requirements:
  - ○ Reliable Internet access
  - ○ Fluent English skills
  - ○ Able to commit one hour per week for four months (September-December 2019)
- ◎ Applications accepted from July 1-August 1
- ◎ Program runs September 1-December 31

Application

Our application is available online as a Google Form: https://bit.ly/2WM68OC

Application questions include:

◎ Country of residence
◎ Type of library
◎ Professional interests

Matching

We plan to match participants manually for our pilot round, potentially looking into automated matching in the future.

1 — Country of residence
Country of residence will be given the highest priority to ensure we match participants with someone from a different country.

2 — Type of library
If participants request to be matched with someone from a particular type of library, this will be given second priority.

3 — Professional interests
If participants request to be matched with someone with similar professional interests, this will be given third priority.

Marketing Strategy and Materials

Website

Includes:

◎ About
◎ How to Apply
◎ Communications
◎ Contact Us
◎ Participant Stories (blog)
◎ Volunteer

See our website at:

http://www.ala.org/rt/irrt/irrtmentorprogram

Email

◎ Contact list of individuals and organizations that will help promote ILMP via their contacts and listservs
◎ Final draft of email invitation to partner organizations

Social Media

Canva branding image for use across platforms

CONNECTING INTERNATIONAL LIBRARIANS - MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

apply today!
ala.org/rt/irrt/irrtmentorprogram

International Librarians Mentorship Program

Email ✉ | Print 🖨 | Cite 🖉 | Share

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ROUND TABLE
ALA
International Librarians Mentorship Program

Mentorship Program Home | About Mentorship Program | How to Apply | Communications | Contact Us | Participant Stories | Volunteer |

Welcome to the International Librarians Mentorship Program

The International Librarians Mentorship Program (ILMP) is modeled after the International Librarians Network (ILN) Peer Mentor Program with the goal of assisting around the world to network and expand their skills in librarianship through a cooperative and collaborative program. This program is designed to be self guided, all participants to form a collaborative relationship with one another over a 4-month period.

Apply today for an opportunity to be a part of our pilot program! If you're accepted, you can join us and help by writing posts for our blogs and giving us feedback or continuously improve this program.

History

In order to facilitate international exchange and partnership among librarians around the world, the ALA International Relations Round Table (IRRT) created a progr for a group of 2019 Emerging Leaders, based on the International Librarians Network started in Queensland several years prior. The Emerging Leaders team worke IRRT in order to implement a pilot program that replicates the successes of the ILN in a sustainable way and closely aligned with IRRT values.
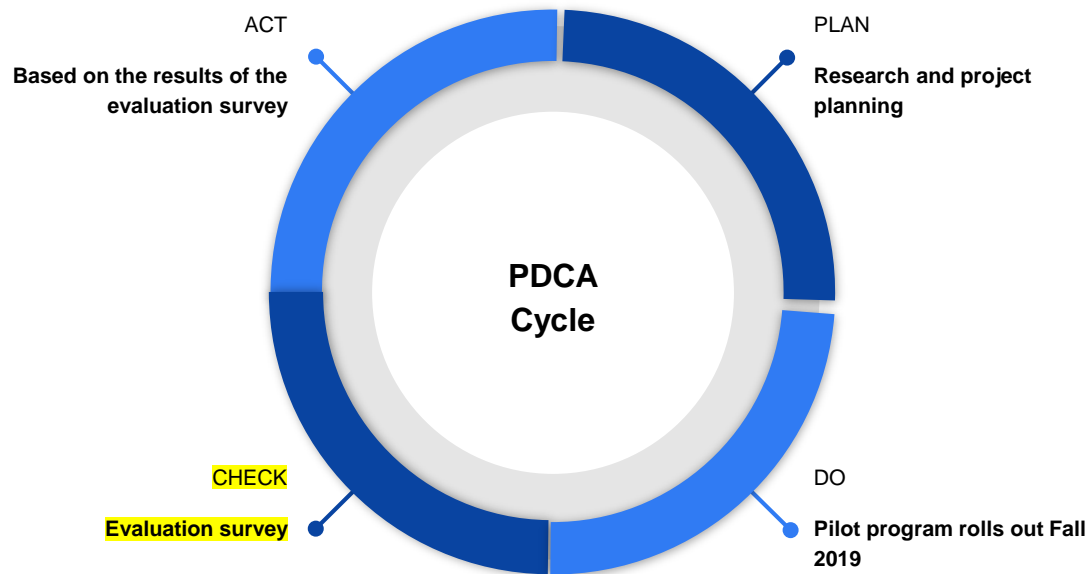
Website

Visit us at http://www.ala.org/rt/irrt/irrtmentorprogram

Blog

Share your experience at
https://connectinglibrarians.blogspot.com

Canva Branding Image

For use across social media platforms

CONNECTING
INTERNATIONAL
LIBRARIANS -
MENTORSHIP
PROGRAM

apply today!
ala.org/rt/irrt/irrtmentorpr
ogram

Evaluation

ACT

Based on the results of the evaluation survey

PLAN

Research and project planning

PDCA Cycle

CHECK

Evaluation survey

DO

Pilot program rolls out Fall 2019

We created a follow-up evaluation survey that participants will receive upon completion of the program to help us improve.

3.

Recommendations for the Future
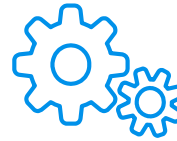
Funding and Partnerships

Two Recommendations for Sustainability

Funding

We recommend that IRRT fund a part- or full-time permanent position to run the ILMP.

Partnerships

We recommend that IRRT continue to explore and pursue partnerships with MentorNJ, the IRRT Sister Libraries Committee, IFLA, and other organizations.

Thanks!

Any questions?

Reach out to us at:

irrt.mentorship@gmail.com